

Haim Shaked · Chen Schechter

Systems Thinking for School Leaders

Holistic Leadership for Excellence in Education

This book presents a new approach to school leadership – Holistic School Leadership, whereby school leaders lead schools through systems-thinking concepts and procedures. Facing growing complexity, change and diversity, school leaders need to regularly apply the systems view and perform at the systems level. This book proposes a holistic approach, providing school leaders with systemic principles of action for excellence in education.

“What a wonderful book – once I started it, I couldn’t put it down. The book masterfully makes a systems leadership perspective accessible and grounded in the reality of the daily life of educators. Holistic School Leadership is a “must read” for anyone who has the responsibility for making schools better places, from professors to emerging teacher leaders.”

*Karen Seashore (Louis), Regents Professor of Organizational Leadership,
Policy and Development University of Minnesota*

“Shaked and Schechter have constructed a much needed bridge to the future of educational leadership, a future of systemic thinking and positivity.”

*Joseph Murphy, Professor of Education and Public Policy,
Peabody College of Education, Vanderbilt University*

“Shaked and Schechter offer a comprehensive yet concise account of the meaning of systems thinking, reviewing the research and detailing its uses. Building on this review, the authors systematically develop their Holistic School Leadership approach with compelling examples, carefully attending to the perennial challenge of implementation. Important reading for scholars and practitioners of school leadership and management!”

*James P. Spillane, Olin Professor in Learning and Organizational Change,
Northwestern University*

“This is the most important book on systems thinking since Senge’s (1990) seminal work on learning organizations. Shaked and Schechter demonstrate the critical and practical utility of systems thinking for school leaders—a must read for all reflective practitioners.”

Wayne K. Hoy, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University

“*Holistic School Leadership* provides an innovative and exciting look into a new perspective on educational leadership that holds tremendous potential in reshaping educational research, policy, and practice. The idea of interdependence alone makes this powerful new book required reading for anyone concerned with the future of education and educational leadership in particular. Give yourself, your colleagues, your students, and your system the gift of the wisdom in this book.”

*Alan J. Daly, Chair and Professor, Department of Education Studies,
University of California, San Diego*

“In this informative book, Shaked and Schechter offer a fresh application of systems thinking to schools and to the work of school leaders. This book is a useful addition to the bookshelves of both those who prepare and those who support school leaders.”

*Megan Tschannen-Moran, Professor of Educational Leadership,
College of William and Mary*

Education

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Foreword by Michael Fullan

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